

Bob's dedication to accuracy in media content and high ethical standards in broadcast journalism have defined his career. He demands journalistic excellence and integrity from himself and those who work for him. Bob's demand for excellence has earned KLAS countless national and regional awards and recognitions.

Besides upping the ante for Nevada journalism, Bob Stoldal has impacted the field on a national level. Mr. Stoldal has been a staunch advocate for cameras in courtrooms and pioneered the charge to allow cameras in southern Nevada's courtrooms, adding a degree of public scrutiny to our legal system.

Mr. Stoldal's dedication to Las Vegas and his community extends far beyond the realm of media. Bob Stoldal has donated countless hours to the public good, working on State and local boards, commissions, and museums. He currently serves as chairman of the Nevada State Museum and Historical Society and the Las Vegas Historic Preservation Commission.

As a member of the Nevada Broadcasting Hall of Fame and the longest serving employee of KLAS, Bob Stoldal is a legend in the field of journalism; his insight, dedication, and integrity will be missed by all. I wish him an enjoyable retirement and all the best in his future endeavors.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

LANCE CORPORAL LAYTON BRADLY CRASS

Mr. BAYH. Mr. President, I rise today with a heavy heart to honor the life of the brave lance corporal from Richmond, IN. Layton Crass, 22 years old, died on June 14, 2008, in Farah Province, Afghanistan, from injuries sustained while his unit was conducting combat operations. He was a member of the U.S. Marine Corps, Golf Company, 2nd Battalion, 7th Marines from Twentynine Palms, CA.

Layton graduated from Richmond High School in 2005. Outgoing and active in school, Layton also loved rollerblading, paintball, and computers. Public service was a family tradition for Layton; his father is a veteran and his brother, Donald, serves in the U.S. Marines, as well. In high school, Layton was part of the Richmond Police Youth Cadet Program and, according to his family, surprised no one when he enlisted in the Marines. It had been his ambition since he was 16 years old.

Before his deployment in Afghanistan, Layton served an 8-month tour in Iraq. Layton never wavered in his commitment to his country or to the Armed Services. His friend, Dustin Gibbs, told a local newspaper that he joined the Marines because of Layton's inspiration. Gibbs had this to say of his comrade: "He was a true friend and an extremely brave man. He had a huge heart and made quite an impact on my life and my future to come." These words illustrate the great influence

Layton had on those lucky enough to know him. His memory will live on long past his years through the many lives he touched.

Today, I join Layton's family and friends in mourning his death. Layton will forever be remembered as a son, brother, and friend to many. He is survived by his parents Donald and Lynne Shingledecker Crass; his sister Dusty Nichole Throop and her husband Nicholas; his brother Devin James Crass and his wife Megan Elizabeth; his nephew, Brenton Isaiah Throop; and his grandparents, Mary Ann and Bob Coons, Zeb and Darlene Crass and Virginia Shingledecker.

While we struggle to bear our sorrow over this loss, we can also take pride in the example he set, bravely fighting to make the world a safer place. It is his courage and strength of character that people will remember when they think of Layton. Today and always, Layton will be remembered by family members, friends and fellow Hoosiers as a true American hero, and we honor the sacrifice he made while dutifully serving his country.

As I search for words to do justice in honoring Layton's sacrifice, I am reminded of President Lincoln's remarks as he addressed the families of the fallen soldiers in Gettysburg: "We cannot dedicate, we cannot consecrate, we cannot hallow this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here." This statement is just as true today as it was nearly 150 years ago, as I am certain that the impact of Layton's actions will live on far longer than any record of these words.

It is my sad duty to enter the name of Layton Bradley Crass in the official record of the Senate for his service to this country and for his profound commitment to freedom, democracy, and peace. When I think about this just cause in which we are engaged and the pain that comes with the loss of our heroes, I hope that Layton's family can find comfort in the words of the prophet Isaiah, who said, "He will swallow up death in victory; and the Lord God will wipe away tears from off all faces."

May God grant strength and peace to those who mourn, and may God be with all of you, as I know He is with Layton.

SOMALIA

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I rise in support of S. Res. 541, adopted on May 21, which is a resolution designed to support humanitarian assistance in Somalia. As you know, Somalia has seen one government after another fail to deliver for the Somali people for the better part of two decades. At the same time, the situation in Somalia and the broader Horn of Africa is of great strategic importance to the

United States and of deep concern to me personally, having traveled to the region on several occasions.

I do not think that we can overestimate the scale of the humanitarian challenges facing Somalia. At least a million people were uprooted during fighting between the Transitional Federal Government and Islamic insurgents last year, and their plight has become graver because of record food prices, drought, and hyperinflation. The 250,000 Somalis in a small corridor outside Mogadishu is now considered the largest camp of internally displaced persons in the world.

The goal of the international community has been to support the formation of a viable government of national unity in Somalia to help stabilize the situation on the ground, and this resolution is designed to support this goal. Nevertheless, we should recall that the country recently faced the terrible prospect of rule by Islamic extremists and that without Ethiopia's intervention, the TFG would not have had this opportunity to bring some measure of stability to the country.

For its part, Ethiopia eliminated the threat of a Taliban-like state taking root on its eastern border and scored a major victory in the war on terrorism. And for our part, this accomplishment furthered U.S. interests by helping ensure that the Somali government did not threaten or seek to destabilize its neighbors or provide protection for terrorists that threaten the United States and its allies.

While I support the broad goal of stability for Somalia and a sustainable peace, let me be clear on an important point. No Somali government should include factions with ties to al-Qaida or al-Shabaab.

Both groups seek to undermine the stability of the TFG, which is the internationally recognized government of Somalia, through violence and intimidation. While al-Qaida's status and animosity towards the United States has been clear for a long time, we should also not underestimate the threat that al-Shabaab also poses to stability in Somalia and the entire region. Indeed, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice designated the group as a foreign terrorist organization and as a specially designated global terrorist on February 29.

In its assessment of the group's activities, the State Department explains the organization scattered leaflets on the streets of Mogadishu warning participants in last year's reconciliation conference that they intended to bomb the conference venue. Al-Shabaab promised to shoot anyone planning to attend the conference and to blow up delegates' cars and hotels. The group has claimed responsibility for shooting deputy district administrators, as well as several bombings and shootings in Mogadishu targeting Ethiopian troops and Somali government officials. In short, terrorist organizations such as al-Qaida and al-Shabaab seek to undermine the hard-fought and tenuous